

MAR 13 2015

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS TO
CONVENE A WORKING GROUP TO STREAMLINE THE STATE'S WORKERS'
COMPENSATION PROCESS.

1 WHEREAS, the purpose of the State's workers' compensation
2 law is to provide wage loss compensation and medical care to
3 employees for work-related injuries; and
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5 WHEREAS, workers' compensation claims are processed by the
6 Disability Compensation Division of the Department of Labor and
7 Industrial Relations; and
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9 WHEREAS, the current workers' compensation system is, at
10 times, inadequate in providing timely relief to workers injured
11 in the course of their employment; and
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13 WHEREAS, injured claimants have experienced significant
14 delays in the processing of their workers' compensation claims;
15 and
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17 WHEREAS, injured claimants have complained that scheduling
18 an independent medical examination can take longer than a year
19 despite repeated requests and inquiries; and
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21 WHEREAS, payments following the execution of a settlement
22 agreement have also been known to take over six months to
23 process; now, therefore,
24

25 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-eighth
26 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2015, the
27 House of Representatives concurring, that the Department of
28 Labor and Industrial Relations is requested to convene a working
29 group to streamline the State's workers' compensation process
30 under chapter 386, Hawaii Revised Statutes; and



1
2 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature requests that
3 the working group consider streamlining the filing process for
4 workers' compensation claims by converting to a computerized
5 system; and
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7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Director of Labor and
8 Industrial Relations or the Director's designee is requested to
9 serve as Chairperson of the working group and to invite the
10 following to serve as members:
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- 12 (1) Insurers that issue workers' compensation insurance
13 policies in the State;
14
- 15 (2) Attorneys who represent employers and employees in
16 workers' compensation claims;
17
- 18 (3) A representative of a mutual benefit society operating
19 in the State;
20
- 21 (4) A representative of a health maintenance organization
22 operating in the State;
23
- 24 (5) Health care providers; and
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- 26 (6) Any other persons deemed appropriate by the
27 Chairperson of the working group; and
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29 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the President of the Senate and
30 the Speaker of the House of Representatives are each requested
31 to appoint one person to serve as a member of the working group;
32 and
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34 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group is requested
35 to submit a report of its findings and recommendations,
36 including any proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later
37 than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session
38 of 2016; and
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1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
2 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Labor
3 and Industrial Relations, President of the Senate, and Speaker
4 of the House of Representatives.
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OFFERED BY:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "SC Pathan", is written over a horizontal line.

